

Report Summary of Green University Project

Rambhai Barni Rajabhat University

Division of Building and Grounds Service

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Rambhai Barni Rajabhat University is situated at 41 Moo 5 Tambon Thachang Amphoe Muang, Chanthaburi. The university is far from the city centre about 6 kilometers, at the Khao Rai Ya Intersection. One side of the university is on Sukhumvit Road. The other side is on Rak Sakcha Moon Road. The area covers 720 Rai. There is a Rambhai Barni golf course, which has nine holes, 36 par in the 200-rai area. The golf course's condition consists of a range of hills with ponds, beautiful sceneries, and evergreen atmospheres. The golf course is opened daily.

The establishment of the university began since Her Majesty Queen Rambhai Barni has brought the relics of King Prajadhipok from England to Thailand in 1949. At first, the former residence of Queen Rambhai Barni is Wang Sra Pathum where Princess Srinagarindra formerly resided. Queen Rambhai Barni was considerate with her long staying at Wang Sra Pathum. Finally, she decided to leave the Wang Sukothai (the palace of King Prajadhipok). Then, on June 20th 1950, she moved to Chanthaburi and established the palace, called Wang Suan Bankaew on the 687-rai land.

At first, the land consisted of dense forests. Her Majesty Queen Rambhai Barni started to grow some crops such as peanuts, cotton, watermelon, and cantaloupe. Her purpose of growing is to demonstrate a new way of growing to Chanthaburi's people. However, these crops aren't suitable for Chanthaburi's climate conditions. She decided to grow coconuts instead. Her wisdom is her decision to grow tapioca in order to prevent weeds and erosion. Moreover, she also grew fruit and vegetables such as 3,000 trees of oranges, rambutans, langsats, mangosteens. In terms of poultry, she ordered many breeds of chickens. There were about 2,000 chickens whose eggs were hatched by hatching machines. She also fed Beijing ducks, geese, and 100 cows in order to have them eat grasses.

There are two main palaces of Wang Suan Bankaew: the grey and red palaces. The red palace is used when the Queen wanted to relax herself. There is her own private orchard, consisting of her favorite plants (e.g. lychee, mangosteen). There are also henhouses, and a birdhouse which covered a range of plants.

When she was getting older, Thai government had made a request for her donation of her private land. It was her great kindness of devotion for Thailand's education. Later, teachers' college of Chanthaburi had been established. Her Majesty Queen Rambhai Barni, then, moved back to Sukhothai Palace. Queen Rambhai Barni spent the rest of her life at the Sukhothai Palace, dying in 1984 at the age of 79.

The teachers' college of Chanthaburi was established on June 15th, 1972. On March, 1985, the college name was honoured by its changing of its name into Rambhai Barni College.

Up to now, there has been a lot of changing in this land. The city condition has been approaching. The green area has been reduced. There are a lot of garbage and water usage.

Consequently, one policy of the university is to be an eco-friendly university under the project called "Green University". With the Green Metric Ranking of World University, there are six indicators which evaluated the university.

1. Setting and Infrastructure
2. Energy and Climate Change
3. Waste Management
4. Water Management
5. Transportation
6. Education for Green

Setting and Infrastructure

The university participated in the project of plant species's protection, which was initiated by Her Royal Highness Princess Mahachakri Sirindhorn. In 1993, the royal forest department was bound to protect forests which are not under its main responsibility such as forest areas in schools or in universities. The university, consequently, donated 50 rai of the forest. With this donation, there were 1,070 square million of utility areas left. There are more than 50 buildings, covering 83,340 square meters, compared to 82,560 square meters of the forest area. The buildings could support 9,792 students and 753 personnel. Moreover, the water area is utilized about 65,250 square meters. A large area covers plantation, and the fields, about 79.96 percent. There are 85.69 percent of biotope areas.

The university has set 2.08 percent of budget aside for land management. The budget will be spent to create weirs, covering weeds, trees, and support the project of plant species's protection.

Energy and Climate Change

Since 2011, the university set the power meters at the large buildings, and used the power-saving appliances. Changing of normal lightbulbs into power saving lightbulbs, cleaning the air-conditioner, and reducing the maximization of energy usage in the system are all promoted.

Now, we are developing a solar cell system such as the one-kilowatt system of power carrier by solar cells. In the next phase, all the large buildings were improved to be eco-friendly buildings. In addition, there are other projects in the future such as Bio charcoal for developing soil, a calculation of green house gas.

Waste Management

The university has been continuously gathering recycling garbage. The staff members at the buildings can separate every type of garbage. Some garbage was correctly separated by having the university clubs manage this.

In 2014, the office of the president has received the award of Green Office (Silver Medal). Under the policy of reducing plastic and paper and putting the right man on the right job, the university could achieve this award.

In terms of sewage management, there are three pathways of waters. One is the rain drain. Another is the washing drain. The other is the toilet drain. There are waste treatment tanks at the large buildings before the treated version of sewage moved to the weirs, and finally moved externally. The university cafeteria set the grease trap at the sink area before the water moved to the treatment tanks. The quality of water is always administered.

Water Management

Surface water has been continuously used for our university. The university has designed myriad of water saving campaigns such as setting saving-water banners around the taps, promoting via the radio station of the university. Nowadays, the university's two main sources of water are surface water, and the Provincial Waterworks Authority's water supply.

Transportation

The university has 13 vehicles, used for the university's affairs. There are about 1,000 cars and 8,000 motorcycles in and out the university. The average distance of transportation in the university is about 4.8 kilometers per car per day. There are about 50 bicycles a day. There are two shuttle buses in the university. Each bus can hold 20 passengers. The distance of shuttle buses is from the front gate to the building 4 (about 2 kilometers). The bus service started at 7 am. There are about 8 rounds a day.

Education

Out of 3,543 courses, there are 93 courses about environmental studies. Out of 50 programs, there are two programs relevant to the environmental studies. There are ten faculties in the university. Faculties that are related to the environmental education and sustainable development are Faculty of Science (Environmental Science Program), Faculty of Humanities (Community Development Program). In summary, these two faculties have most relevant courses about environmental education and sustainable development. The environmental science program has 29 related courses; the community development program has 24 related course. There is another faculty, which is related to the environmental education and sustainable development. That is, the faculty of agricultural technology has 19 courses in relation to the environmental and sustainable development.

In terms of research projects, the university has been continuously granted research funds for three years consecutively (2012, 2013 and 2014). There are 80 research studies, which are about 26.6 studies a year. There are research funds about environmental studies about 13.54 million baht, which is 4.51 million a year (about 126,395 US dollars). In terms of general amount of research budget s, there were about 710,904 US dollars in average.

With respect to publication, in three consecutive years mentioned, there were 80 research articles published, which were about 26.6 studies a year. There were four academic articles about environmental studies in the three years mentioned, which were about 1.33 articles a year. Annually, there is a conference, called Rambhai Barni Conference.

In terms of student organizations, there are five clubs, which are concerned with environmental studies. There are Backpacker Club, Econgreen Club, Environmental Care Club, Nature Conservation Club, and Eco Tourism Club. For further information, you can visit www.building.rbru.ac.th.